Reply of Government.—This is under consideration in connection with the scheme of reorganization of the Agricultural Department.

SUBJECT No. 105.

Agriculture in the malnad.

Mr. Nadig Bhistappa, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As agriculture is in a backward condition in the malnad, an officer of the Agricultural Department may be posted to each malnad taluk to give practical instruction to the raiyats in improved methods of agriculture.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 106.

Implement and seed depot.

Messrs. Krishnappa and Chennakesava Rao, Koppa taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A depot may be opened in the Koppa taluk cutcherry to enable the agriculturists to procure seeds, improved ploughs, etc., easily as some of the raiyats are taking to their use.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao supported the representation.

Mr. M. K. Krishnamurthi Rao represented that Government depots should not compete with private depots of which there were two, one in Bangalore and one in Kolar.

Reply of Government.—It is not possible for various reasons to open a separate depot in the Koppa taluk cutcherry, as suggested. If the raiyats apply to the Amildar and make payment in advance, the Amildar will communicate with the Agricultural Department and obtain the necessary implements and seeds. When the Agricultural Department popularises the implements, etc., then private agencies may take up their introduction and sale.

SUBJECT No. 107.

Agricultural machinery.

(*a*) Messrs. H. Krishna Rao and A. Guru Rao, Kadur District Board.
(*b*) Chikka Guruva Reddy and Veerappa Reddy, Bangalore taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) To improve agriculture in the State, Government grant loans for the purchase of machinery at 5 per cent interest per annum. Till some experience is gained in the use of such machinery a concession may be shown in the rate of interest.

(*b*) No interest should be charged on loans advanced to raiyats for the purchase of agricultural machines or engines till they understand the uses of the same. Last year this prayer was promised to be considered.

Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao.—The payment of instalments should not be made to begin in 15 months. No work in which machinery is employed can begin to pay in that short period.

Mr. B. K. Garudachar.—The rate of interest should be reduced to 4½ per cent and the time for repayment should be extended.

Reply of Government.—Noted. Will be considered.